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## Governor Doyle Announces Effort to Recruit More E-85 Pumps to Wisconsin

### *Also Announces Additional Initiatives to Explore Hydrogen, Biodiesel*

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle gassed up his GM-built flex-fuel vehicle today at a Stop-N-Go station in Madison, and announced a new state effort to recruit more E-85 stations to Wisconsin. E-85 is fuel made with 85 percent ethanol, and 15 percent gasoline.

“By making E-85 fuel more available in Wisconsin, families will not only save money, they will help our environment and agricultural industry, and reduce our dependence on foreign oil,” Governor Doyle said. “For every dollar we spend on ethanol, seventy cents stays right here in Wisconsin – and that’s good news for Wisconsin’s economy.”

Part of Governor Doyle’s Promoting Our Wisconsin Energy Resources (POWER) Initiative, the \$335,000 program will focus on working with and through local governments and others to increase the number of E-85 fueling stations, and increase use of E-85 in their vehicle fleets.

**More E-85 Pumps in Wisconsin:** \$175,000 will be used to provide grants to gas station operators to assist in the installation of E-85 pumps. This effort is expected to establish 35 new E-85 pumps across the state, more than doubling the number of E-85 pumps in Wisconsin.

**Increased Use of E-85 in Local Government Vehicle Fleets:** \$100,000 will be focused on providing incentives to local governments to increase the percentage of flexible fuel vehicles in their fleet, and committing to increasing their use of E-85 in them.

**Promoting E-85:** \$40,000 will be focused on actively promoting E-85, raising awareness of the fuel, especially among those who already own flexible fuel vehicles. It is estimated that there are more than 100,000 flex fuel vehicles in Wisconsin capable of using E-85.

On March 1, 2006, Governor Doyle issued an Executive Order that requires all state agencies to reduce the use of petroleum-based gasoline in the state’s vehicle fleet by 20 percent by 2010 and by 50 percent by 2015. While there are price fluctuations in all blends of gasoline – E85 is generally between \$.11 and \$.50 cheaper than regular unleaded blend.

In addition to the effort to promote E-85, Governor Doyle also announced several additional programs in the POWER Initiative to keep Wisconsin on the cutting edge of renewable energy technologies.

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“Wisconsin is leading the way in energy independence,” Governor Doyle said. “And through the POWER Initiative we will keep our momentum going by exploring new energy sources like hydrogen, and building the necessary infrastructure to be a leader in the production and use of Biofuels.”

**Building Infrastructure for Wisconsin’s Biodiesel Industry:** \$100,000 will be focused on establishing the needed infrastructure to build a biodiesel industry in Wisconsin. These funds will be used to partner with private business to build a crusher facility to extract the oil from feedstocks of soybeans, canola, or other seeds for their use in manufacturing renewable fuel.

**Exploring Hydrogen:** \$200,000 will be focused on moving Wisconsin forward toward the use of hydrogen, which many consider the fuel of the future. This program will fund demonstration projects to educate citizens on the use of hydrogen as an environmentally friendly fuel.

This is part of a broad effort to make Wisconsin the nation’s leader in energy independence. Two weeks ago, Governor Doyle signed into law a major overhaul of Wisconsin energy policy – the Energy Efficiency and Renewables Act, which requires that by 2015, ten percent of the state’s electricity be from renewable sources. In addition, by 2011, the state will leverage its buying power to purchase 20 percent of our energy for the six largest state agencies from renewable sources.

“I want Wisconsin to lead the nation in clean energy production, growing an innovative new industry here that will not only help our country kick the oil addiction, but also create thousands of jobs for our citizens,” Governor Doyle said. “The rising cost of energy is affecting everyone in Wisconsin – and it is squeezing a lot of hardworking Wisconsin families. By promoting the use of renewable fuels we will reduce our energy costs, keep more of our energy dollars right here in Wisconsin, and grow our economy.”

More information on the POWER Initiative is available at <http://power.wisconsin.gov>.